

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JIDDA 01328 161127Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
-----161129Z 061862 /15

O R 161030Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7312
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY VICTORIA

S E C R E T JIDDA 1328

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MORG, PK, KE, IR, SA, MU, MP
SUBJ: MIDDLE EAST FORCE-THE NEW FORMAT: THE VIEW FROM
SAUDI ARABIA

REF: (A) STATE 30235, (B) MANAMA 0244

1. THE FREQUENCY OF PORT VISIT/LENGTH OF STAY PATTERN OF
TWO/TWO (TWICE A YEAR/TWO WEEKS EACH VISIT) WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE
TO SAG, IN OUR JIDGMENT. HOWEVER, WE THINK THE SAG MIGHT BE
RELUCTANT TO GIVE ALONGSIDE PIER SPACE TO A US NAVY SHIP FOR
TWO WEEKS IF THEY NEED BERTHS FOR PORT OPERATIONS.

2. IF THE ALONGSIDE TIME COULD BE REDUCED TO, SAY, THREE
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DAYS (IF SPACE IS NEEDED) WITH THE BALANCE AT ANCHOR, WE
THINK THE SAG MIGHT WELCOME SUCH VISITS.

3. WE ASSUME, OF COURSE, THE COMIDEASTFOR WILL BE ABLE
TO HOST APPROPRIATE ACTIVITIES ABOARD FOR SAG DIGNITARIES,
AND PERHAPS OFFER TRAINING AND FAMILIARIZATION TO SAUDI
NAVY. FURTHER, IT IS ESSENTIAL COMIDEASTFOR PROVIDE AN

ADEQUATE ADVANCE PARTY TO ARRANGE FOR ALL LOGISTICAL
SUPPORT FOR THE TWO WEEK VISITS. EMBASSY CANNOT PROVIDE
PERSONNEL TO SUPPORT SUCH PROLONGED VISITS.

4. ON THE QUESTION OF THE WILLINGNESS OF THE SAG TO ISSUE
A PUBLIC STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR BAHRAIN'S MAINTENANCE OF
MIDEASTFOR PRESENCE: WE STILL THINK THAT THEY COULD NOT
BE INDUCED TO MAKE A PUBLIC STATEMENT IN FAVOR OF RETEN-
TION OF THE FORCE, BUT IF BAHRAIN SEES FIT TO RETAIN THE
FORCE IT WILL BE ON ITS OWN AND THESAUDIS WILL NOT CRITI-
CIZE THE JIDGMENT. (SEE 76 JIDDA 4306 AND 76 JIDDA 7021
WHICH ADDRESS THIS ISSUE.)
PORTER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Concepts: NAVAL FORCES, MILITARY BASE AGREEMENTS, MILITARY VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition Reason:
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